

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Bills Introduced: 21 public bills, H.R. 1031–1051; and 5 resolutions, H. Con. Res. 46–47, and H. Res. 92, 93, 96, were introduced. **Pages H948–49**

Reports Filed: Reports were filed as follows:

H. Res. 94, providing for consideration of H.R. 412, to approve a settlement agreement between the Bureau of Reclamation and the Oroville-Tonasket Irrigation District (H. Rept. 105–19);

H. Res. 95, providing for consideration of H.J. Res. 58, disapproving the certification of the President regarding foreign assistance for Mexico during fiscal year 1997 (H. Rept. 105–20);

H.R. 1, to amend the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 to provide compensatory time for employees in the private sector, amended (H. Rept. 105–21); and

H.R. 437, to reauthorize the National Sea Grant College Program Act (H. Rept. 105–22, Part I).

Page H948

Journal: By a yea-and-nay vote of 370 yeas to 44 nays, Roll No. 39, agreed to the Speaker's approval of the Journal of Tuesday, March 12. **Pages H891–92**

Motion to Adjourn: By a yea-and-nay vote of 26 yeas to 392 nays, Roll No. 40, rejected the Bonior motion to adjourn. **Pages H895–96**

Balanced Budget: By a yea-and-nay vote of 231 yeas to 197 nays, Roll No. 44, the House agreed to H. Res. 89, requesting the President to submit a budget for fiscal year 1998 that would balance the Federal budget by fiscal year 2002 without relying on budgetary constraints. **Pages H904–23**

Rejected the Spratt motion that sought to recommit H. Res. 89 to the Committee on the Budget with instructions to report a detailed budget plan to achieve a balanced budget by fiscal year 2002 in sufficient time for the House of Representatives to fulfill its obligations under section 301(a) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, which requires Congress to complete action on or before April 15 on a concurrent resolution on the budget for the fiscal year beginning on October 1 of such year (rejected by a yea-and-nay vote of 202 yeas to 225 nays, Roll No. 43). **Pages H921–23**

H. Res. 90, the rule under which the resolution was considered, was agreed to by a yea-and-nay vote of 226 yeas to 202 nays, Roll No. 42. Earlier, agreed to order the previous question by a yea-and-nay vote of 226 yeas to 200 nays, Roll No. 41.

Pages H896–H904

United States Holocaust Memorial Council: The Chair announced the Speaker's appointment of Representative Yates to the United States Holocaust Memorial Council. **Page H923**

Commission on Congressional Mailing Standards: The Chair announced the Speaker's appointment of Representative Thomas as Chairman; and Representatives Ney, Boehner, Hoyer, Clay, and Frost as members of the House Commission on Congressional Mailing Standards. **Pages H923–24**

Social Security Advisory Board: The Chair announced the Speaker's appointment of Ms. Jo Anne Barnhart of Arlington, Virginia to fill the existing vacancy on the Social Security Advisory Board. **Page H924**

Quorum Calls—Votes: Six yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of the House today and appear on pages H891–92, H895–96, H903–04, H904, H922–23, and H923. There were no quorum calls.

Adjournment: Met at 11:00 a.m. and adjourned at 7:49 p.m.

Committee Meetings

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Agriculture: Ordered reported the following bills: H.R. 111, to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to convey a parcel of unused agricultural land in Dos Palos, CA, to the Dos Palos Ag Boosters for use as a farm school; H.R. 394, to provide for the release of the reversionary interest held by the United States in certain property located in the County of Losco, MI; H.R. 785, to designate the J. Phil Campbell, Senior, Natural Resource Conservation Center; and H.R. 1000, to require States to establish a system to prevent prisoners from being considered part of any household for purposes of determining eligibility of the household for food stamp benefits to be provided to the household under the Food Stamp Act of 1997.

FOOD STAMP PROGRAM

Committee on Agriculture: Subcommittee on Department Operations, Nutrition, and Foreign Agriculture held a hearing on the status of the electronic benefit transfer system for the food stamp program. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the USDA: Mary Ann Keeffe, Acting Under Secretary,

Food and Consumer Services; and Roger Viadero, Inspector General; Bob Rasor, Deputy Assistant Director, Office of Investigation, U.S. Secret Service, Department of the Treasury; G. Edward De Seve, Controller, OMB; and public witnesses.

AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FDA AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies continued appropriation hearings. Testimony was heard from Members of Congress and public witnesses.

The Subcommittee also held a hearing on food safety. Testimony was heard from Ron Billy, Administrator, Food Safety and Inspection Service, USDA.

COMMERCE, JUSTICE, STATE, AND JUDICIARY APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, State and Judiciary held a hearing on United States Information Agency/International Broadcasting. Testimony was heard from Joseph Duffy, Director, United States Information Agency; and David Burke, Chairman, Board of International Broadcasters.

The Subcommittee also met in executive session to hold a hearing on Counterterrorism. Testimony was heard from Louis J. Freeh, Director, FBI, Department of Justice; and the following officials of the Department of State: Ambassador Philip Wilcox, Coordinator, Counterterrorism; and Eric Boswell, Assistant Secretary, Diplomatic Security.

ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development held a hearing on Nuclear Waste Management and Disposal. Testimony was heard from the Department of Energy: Lake H. Barrett, Acting Director, Civilian Radio Active Waste Management; and Alvin Alm, Assistant Secretary, Environmental Management.

INTERIOR APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Interior held a hearing on Fish and Wildlife Service. Testimony was heard from John Rogers, Acting Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior.

LABOR-HHS-EDUCATION APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education held a hearing on Vocational and Adult Education; Special

Education; Rehabilitative Services, and on Postsecondary Education. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Education: Patricia W. McNeil, Assistant Secretary, Vocational and Adult Education; Judith E. Heumann, Assistant Secretary, Special Education and Rehabilitative Services; and David Longanecker, Assistant Secretary, Postsecondary Education.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION APPROPRIATION

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Military Construction held a hearing on Housing Privatization Effort. Testimony was heard from John Goodman, Deputy Under Secretary, Industrial Affairs and Installations, Department of Defense.

NATIONAL SECURITY APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on National Security held a hearing on Air Force Acquisition Programs. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of the Air Force: Arthur L. Money, Assistant Secretary, Acquisition; and Lt. Gen. George K. Muellner, USAF, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary, Acquisition.

TRANSPORTATION APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Transportation held a hearing on the Coast Guard. Testimony was heard from Adm. Robert E. Kramek, USCG, Commandant, U.S. Coast Guard, Department of Transportation.

TREASURY, POSTAL SERVICE, AND GENERAL GOVERNMENT APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on Treasury, Postal Service, and General Government held a hearing on the U.S. Postal Service. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the U.S. Postal Service: Michael S. Coughlin, Deputy Postmaster General; and Mary S. Elcano, Senior Vice President and General Counsel.

VA-HUD-INDEPENDENT AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS

Committee on Appropriations: Subcommittee on VA, HUD and Independent Agencies held a hearing on Community Development Financial Institutions and on National Credit Union Administration. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of the Treasury: Robert E. Rubin, Secretary; and Kristen Moy, Head, Community Development Financial Institutions; and Norman E. D'Amours, Chairman, National Credit Union Administration.

FINANCIAL SERVICES MODERNIZATION

Committee on Banking and Financial Services: Subcommittee on Capital Markets, Securities and Government Sponsored Enterprises continued hearings on financial services modernization. Testimony was heard from Representative Leach; and public witnesses.

CORRECTING THE CPI

Committee on the Budget: Held a hearing on correcting the CPI. Testimony was heard from Katharine Abraham, Commissioner, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Department of Labor; and Michael Boskin, Professor of Economics, Stanford University.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Commerce: Subcommittee on Health and Environment approved for full Committee action the following: H.R. 968, to amend Title XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act to permit a waiver of the prohibition of offering nurse aide training and competency evaluation programs in certain nursing facilities; and H.R. 1001, to extend the term of appointment of certain members of the Prospective Payment Assessment Commission and the Physician Payment Review Commission.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES; FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM ACQUISITION STRATEGY

Committee on Government Reform and Oversight: Ordered reported the following bills: H.R. 173, to amend the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949 to authorize donation of surplus law enforcement canines to their handlers; H.R. 680, to amend the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949 to authorize the transfer to States of surplus personal property for donation to nonprofit providers of necessities to impoverished families and individuals; H.R. 930, Travel and Transportation Act of 1997; H.R. 514, amended, to permit waiver of District of Columbia residency requirements for certain employees of the Office of the Inspector General of the District of Columbia; H.R. 240, amended, Veteran's Employment Opportunities Act of 1997.

The Committee also approved the following draft report entitled "A Citizen's Guide on Using the Freedom of Information Act and the Privacy Act of 1974 to Request Government Records".

The Committee also continued hearings on Federal Communications System Acquisition Strategy (post FTS 2000): An Industry Perspective. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

COMMITTEE FUNDING

Committee on House Oversight: Ordered reported amended H. Res. 91, providing amounts for the ex-

penses of certain committees of the House of Representatives.

The Committee also considered pending Committee business.

U.S.-RUSSIAN RELATIONS

Committee on International Relations: Held a hearing on U.S.-Russian Relations. Testimony was heard from Ambassador-at-Large James F. Collins, New Independent States, Department of State.

DEMOCRATIC CONTINUITY AND CHANGE IN SOUTH ASIA

Committee on International Relations: Subcommittee on Asia and the Pacific held a hearing on Democratic Continuity and Change in South Asia. Testimony was heard from Robin L. Raphel, Assistant Secretary, South Asian Affairs, Department of State; and public witnesses.

WESTERN HEMISPHERE—ROUNDTABLE

Committee on International Relations: Subcommittee on Western Hemisphere held a hearing on the Western Hemisphere Today: A Roundtable Discussion. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on the Judiciary: Ordered reported the following bills: H.R. 908, to establish a Commission on Structural Alternatives for the Federal Courts of Appeals; H.R. 929, amended, Partial-Birth Abortion Ban Act of 1997; H.R. 924, amended, Victim Allocation Clarification Act of 1997; H.R. 927, United States Marshals Service Improvement Act; H.R. 400, amended, 21st Century Patent System Improvement Act; and H.R. 672, amended, to make technical amendments to certain provisions of title 17, United States Code.

DOD AUTHORIZATION

Committee on National Security: Continued hearings on fiscal year 1998 Department of Defense authorization request. Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Defense: Togo D. West, Jr., Secretary of the Army; John H. Dalton, Secretary of the Navy; and Sheila E. Widnall, Secretary of the Air Force.

Hearings continue March 19.

B-2 BOMBER

Committee on National Security: Subcommittee on Military Procurement held a hearing on B-2 Bomber program. Testimony was heard from Representative Dicks; and public witnesses.

REFORM INITIATIVES

Committee on National Security: Subcommittee on Military Readiness held a hearing on reform initiatives.

Testimony was heard from David R. Warren, Director, Defense Management Issues, GAO; the following officials of the Department of Defense: John B. Goodman, Deputy Under Secretary (Industrial Affairs and Installations); Maj. Gen. Randolph W. House, USA, Assistant Chief of Staff, Installations Management, Department of the Army; Rear Adm. John T. Scudi, USN, Director, Shore Installation Management; Brig Gen. Hugh Cameron, USAF, Commander, Air Force Center for Quality and Management Innovations, Department of the Air Force; and Maj. Gen. Joseph D. Stewart, USMC, Deputy Chief of Staff, Installations Management, Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps; and public witnesses.

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Resources: Ordered reported amended the following bills: H.R. 752, Citizen's Fair Hearing Act of 1997, and H.R. 757, American Samoa Development Act of 1997.

SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT—BUREAU OF RECLAMATION AND OROVILLE-TONASKET IRRIGATION DISTRICT

Committee on Rules: Granted an open rule providing 1 hour of debate on H.R. 412, to approve a settlement agreement between the Bureau of Reclamation and the Oroville-Tonasket Irrigation District. The rule makes in order the Committee on Resources amendment in the nature of a substitute now printed in the bill as an original bill for amendment purposes. The amendment in the nature of a substitute shall be considered as read. Finally, the rule provides one motion to recommit, with or without instructions. Testimony was heard from Representatives Doolittle and Miller of California.

FOREIGN ASSISTANCE TO MEXICO—DISAPPROVING CERTIFICATION

Committee on Rules: Granted a modified closed rule providing for consideration in the House with two hours of debate on H.J. Res. 58, disapproving the certification of the President under section 490(b) of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 regarding foreign assistance for Mexico during fiscal year 1997. The rule waives all points of order against the committee amendment printed in the joint resolution.

The rule provides for separate consideration of the amendment printed in the report of the Committee on Rules for a time specified in the report, to be equally divided between the proponent and an opponent and all points of order against said amendment are waived. Finally, the rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. Testimony was heard from Chairman Gilman and Representatives Hastert, Shaw, Schiff, Stearns, Hamilton and Reyes.

U.S. AND ANTARCTICA IN THE 21ST CENTURY

Committee on Science: Held a hearing on the U.S. and Antarctica in the 21st Century. Testimony was heard from Norman Augustine, Chairman, U.S. Antarctic Program External Panel, NSF.

Prior to the hearing, the Committee met for organizational purposes.

EPA'S PARTICULATE MATTER AND OZONE STANDARDS

Committee on Science: Subcommittee on Energy and Environment held a hearing on EPA's Particulate Matter and Ozone Standards. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

NASA AUTHORIZATION

Committee on Science: Subcommittee on Space and Aeronautics held a hearing on Fiscal Year 1998 NASA Authorization, Aeronautics and Advanced Space Transportation. Testimony was heard from the following officials of NASA: Robert E. Whitehead, Associate Administrator, Aeronautics and Space Transportation Technology; and Gary E. Payton, Deputy Associate Administrator (Space Transportation Technology) and Director, Space Transportation Division.

COMMUNITY RENEWAL INITIATIVES

Committee on Small Business: Held a hearing on community renewal initiatives for low income areas. Testimony was heard from Representative Watts of Oklahoma; and public witnesses.

COMMITTEE BUSINESS; BUDGET VIEWS AND ESTIMATES

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Met to consider pending Committee business.

The Committee also approved the Budget Views and Estimates for Fiscal Year 1998 for transmission to the Committee on the Budget.

AMTRAK CURRENT STATE

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Railroads held a hearing on the Current State of Amtrak. Testimony was heard from Don Otkoff, Deputy Administrator, Federal Railroad Administration, Department of Transportation; Phyllis Scheinberg, Associate Director, Transportation Issues, GAO; and Thomas M. Downs, Chairman, President, and CEO, National Railroad Passenger Corporation (AMTRAK).

SUPERFUND REAUTHORIZATION

Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure: Subcommittee on Water Resources and Environment held a hearing on Superfund Reauthorization: Views

of EPA. Testimony was heard from Carol M. Browner, Administrator, EPA.

SOCIAL SECURITY ACT AMENDMENTS— NURSE AIDE TRAINING

Committee on Ways and Means: Ordered reported H.R. 968, to amend title XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act to permit a waiver of the prohibition of offering nurse aide training and competency evaluation programs in certain nursing facilities.

ADMINISTRATION'S BUDGET—REVENUE RAISING PROVISIONS

Committee on Ways and Means: Held a hearing on Revenue Raising Provisions in the Administration's Fiscal Year Budget Proposal. Testimony was heard from public witnesses.

COMMITTEE BUSINESS; BUDGET— INTELLIGENCE REQUIREMENTS

Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence: Met in executive session to consider pending business.

The Committee also held a hearing on the Budget—Intelligence Requirements. Testimony was heard from departmental witnesses.

Joint Meetings

1998 BUDGET ISSUES

Joint Hearing: Senate Committee on the Budget concluded joint hearings with the House Committee on the Budget to examine public policy issues of United States governors with regard to the proposed Federal budget for fiscal year 1998, after receiving testimony from Nevada Governor Bob Miller, Carson City, Iowa Governor Terry E. Branstad, Des Moines, Kentucky Governor Paul E. Patton, Frankfort, and North Dakota Governor Edward T. Schafer, Bismarck, all on behalf of the National Governors' Association.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY, MARCH 13, 1997

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry, to resume hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for agricultural research, 9 a.m., SR-332.

Committee on Appropriations, Subcommittee on District of Columbia to hold joint hearings with the Committee on Governmental Affairs' Subcommittee on Oversight of Government Management and The District of Columbia, with the House Government Reform and Oversight Subcommittee on the District of Columbia and the House Appropriations Subcommittee on the District of Columbia to examine the Government of the District of Colum-

bia's perspective on the Administration's proposal for the District of Columbia, 9:45 a.m., 2154 Rayburn Building.

Subcommittee on Interior, to hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Department of Energy, 2 p.m., SD-124.

Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, State, and the Judiciary, to hold hearings on proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 1998 for the Department of Commerce, 2 p.m., S-146, Capitol.

Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, and Related Agencies, to hold hearings to examine alternative options to the National Cheese Exchange as part of the dairy pricing system, 2:30 p.m., SD-138.

Committee on Armed Services, to resume hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for fiscal year 1998 for the Department of Defense and the future years defense program, focusing on the unified commands military strategies and operational requirements, 10 a.m., SR-222.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation, Subcommittee on Surface Transportation and Merchant Marine, to hold hearings to examine the future of intercity passenger rail service, 2 p.m., SR-253.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources, to continue to mark up S. 104, to reform United States policy with regard to the management and disposal of spent nuclear fuel and high-level radioactive waste; to be followed by resumed hearings to examine issues with regard to competitive change in the electric power industry, 9:30 a.m., SD-G50.

Subcommittee on National Parks, Historic Preservation, and Recreation, to hold hearings to examine the future of the National Park System and to identify and discuss the needs, requirements, and innovative programs that will insure the Park Service will continue to meet its responsibilities well into the next century, 2 p.m., SD-366.

Committee on Environment and Public Works, Subcommittee on Transportation and Infrastructure, to resume hearings on proposed legislation authorizing funds for programs of the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act, focusing on program eligibility, 9:20 a.m., SD-406.

Committee on Finance, to hold hearings to examine the tax treatment of capital gains and losses, 9:30 a.m., SD-215.

Subcommittee on Health Care, to resume hearings to examine the financial soundness of the Medicare system, 2 p.m., SD-215.

Committee on Foreign Relations, Subcommittee on International Operations, to hold hearings on the President's proposed budget requests for fiscal year 1998 for certain International Organizations and Conferences and the U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, 10:30 a.m., SD-419.

Committee on Governmental Affairs, Subcommittee on International Security, Proliferation and Federal Services, to hold hearings to examine national missile defense and prospects for U.S.-Russia ABM Treaty accommodation, 9:30 a.m., SD-342.

Subcommittee on Oversight of Government Management and The District of Columbia to hold joint hearings